

Department for Women, Children, Disabled & Senior Citizens Enhancement of the remuneration to the Counsellors (Legal) working under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 (PWDV Act, 2005) - Orders - Issued.

DEPT. FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN, DISABLED & SENIOR CITIZENS (WP).

G.O.Rt.No. 5

Dated:08-01-2013. Read:-

- 1. G.O.Rt.No.220, WD, CW & DW (WP.1) Department, dt:21-08-2007.
- 2. G.O.Ms.No.3, Finance (SMPC-II) Department, dt:12-01-2011.
- 3. From the Director, WD & CW Department, Hyderabad, Lr.No.3390/B1/2010, dt:02-07-2011.
- 4. G.O.Rt.No.78, Department for WCD & SC, dt:23-02-2012.
- 5. Representation of Legal Counsellors, dt:17-02-2012.
- 6. From the Commissioner, WD & CW Department, Hyderabad, Lr.No.3390/B3/2010, dt:06-08-2012.

ORDER:-

In the G.O. 1st read above, the Government has issued orders for sanction of 2 posts of Counsellors, one each for Legal and Social counselling with monthly honorarium of Rs.6,500/- in all 23 Districts on Outsourcing basis through third party to assist the Protection Officer (Project Director, District Women & Child Development Agency) for implementing Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, based on the instructions of Government of India.

- In the letter 3rd read above, the Director, Women Development &Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad, has informed that in the G.O. 2nd read above Government has enhanced the remuneration of Contract/Outsourcing personnel in accordance with the PRC of 2010 but the designation/posts of "COUNSELLORS" working under D.V.Act are not covered in the said G.O. due to which it is difficult to fix the enhanced remuneration to the post of Counselor. Hence, she has proposed to include the post/designation of the "Counsellors" with enhancement of remuneration to them.
- Accordingly Government have accorded permission to the Director, Women Development & Child Welfare Department to pay enhanced remuneration of Rs.19,000/- pm (Rupees Nineteen Thousand Only) to "SOCIAL Counsellors" vide G.O.Rt.No.78, Dept. for WCD & SC(WP), dt:23-02-2012.
- In the letter 5th read above, the Legal Counsellors have represented to the Govt. stating that the role of Legal Counsellors starts with filing of Domestic Incident Report in the courts; ensuring dispatch of summons; cases are numbered and thus assist the Protection Officer in the effective implementation of the D.V.Act. and hence they have requested to fix their remuneration on par with Social Counsellors with effect from 12-01-2011 and grant arrears.

- 5. In the reference 6th read above, the Commissioner, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad has informed that the prescribed qualification for Legal Counselor is LLB/BL with 5 years of minimum practice as an Advocate and requested to fix remuneration to the Legal Counsellors on par with that of the Social Counsellors as per G.O.Rt.No.78, WD, CW & DW (WP) Department, dt:23-02-2012 i.e., @ Rs.19,000/- per month / head, as the Legal Counsellors are full time employees of DV Cell of DW & CDAs taken through outsourcing like the Social Counsellors and attend to the prescribed duties and they are not permitted to take up the DV cases as private counsels while they are in service.
- 6. Government after careful examination hereby accord sanction for payment of enhanced remuneration of Rs.19,000/- pm (Rupees Nineteen Thousand Only) to "LEGAL COUNSELLOR" with the following conditions:-
 - (i) The posts of Legal Counsellors shall be filled on contract basis for a period of 12 months instead of hiring through a third party, as per the guidelines issued by the Government.
 - (ii) Legal Counsellors must have LLB/BL Qualification with (5) years of minimum practice as an Advocate.
 - (iii) The Legal Counsellors are not permitted to take up practice as private Counsels.
 - (iv) Shall effectively discharge the duties and responsibilities as assigned to them by the Protection Officer under the D.V. Act and assist the Protection Officer in implementation of the provisions of the D.V.Act and Rules.
- 7. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance (SMPC-I) Dept., vide their U.O.No.8184/118/A2/SMPC-II/12, dt:04-04-2012.
- 8. The Commissioner, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NILAM SAWHNEY, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

То

The Commissioner, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad.

All the Regional Joint Directors/ Regional Deputy Directors,

DW & CDA in the State.

All the Project Directors, DW & CDA in the State.

through Commissioner, WD & CW Department.

Copy to:-

The Pay and Accounts Officer, Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy District.

The Director, Treasuries and Accounts, Hyderabad.

All the District Treasury Officers in the State <u>through Commissioner</u>, <u>Women Development & Child Welfare Department</u>, <u>Hyderabad</u>.

The Accountant General, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.

Finance (SMPC) Department, A.P.Secretariat, Hyderabad. SF/SCs.

/ / FORWARDED : : BY ORDER / /